

THE LACLEDE BLADE.

A. J. CAYWOOD, Editor and Publisher.

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Don't stamp your feet and swear so at this weather. In six months from now you may be drinking red lemonade and wielding a palm leaf fan at a circus.

ALL new subscribers paying one year in advance for THE BLADE will be given the Kansas City Weekly Star one year free. This offer is good for a few weeks only.

THE Missouri Press Association will not hold a winter meeting this year, and the energies of the editors will be reserved for the summer meeting and a trip to the Portland exposition.

On account of the uncertainty as to what the supreme court is going to do with the township organization law, candidates for township offices are not as active this season as usual. A decision is looked for from the court this month.

DURING December the Modern Woodmen chartered fifty-six new camps and 7,967 applications were written. The membership of this order is now more than 700,000, and the good it is doing cannot be computed in dollars and cents.

THE BLADE, the Farmer and Stockman, a large weekly agricultural paper, the Homemaker, a monthly magazine, and the Farm Gazette, a handsomely printed and well edited monthly farm magazine—all four publications one year for \$1.25.

A BILL has been introduced in the house at Jefferson City which places the metropolitan police on a civil service basis. It provides that there shall be no dismissals except for cause and that promotions shall be for merit only. This measure is said to be along lines advocated by Governor Folk.

THE Kerens bolt was planned months ago. The Kansas City Journal, which was in on the scheme, gave it away several days before the legislature convened, when it said that "the action of the caucus would not necessarily settle the senatorial contest." The Journal's republicanism has been in doubt for some time.

It is a lasting shame and disgrace to the party and the state of Missouri that there should be twelve men in the general assembly so weak, or so corrupt, as to become tools in the hands of a man who is known only as a commercial politician, and who, having been beaten in a fair contest, is now endeavoring to disrupt and discredit his party.

THE republican party has met many defeats in Missouri, but always came up in succeeding campaigns ready and anxious for another round. And notwithstanding the embarrassing position in which it is now placed through party treachery in its own household at Jefferson City, it will survive and continue to champion progressive ideas in government and the welfare of the people. The majority should, and ultimately will, win, and the bolters will come into camp or go over to the enemy, in whose interest they are now working.

THE Kansas City Journal, a paper that is controlled by railroad influence, says that if Mr. Niedringhaus will withdraw, the legislature can elect a senator and proceed with other business. Mr. Niedringhaus is the republican caucus nominee and is under no obligations to withdraw. Mr. Kerens is an intruder and is trying to push himself in where he has been rejected by a clean majority, and is entitled to no recognition whatever by the republican representatives. The Journal's actions in the senatorial matter are disgusting to every fair-minded person in the state.

They Will Gain Nothing.

From Milan Republican.

Parties interested in the defeat of Mr. Niedringhaus for senator and the disruption of the republican party are sending out in printed form scurrilous attacks upon his integrity and trying to give some plausible excuse for those bolting the caucus nominee.

If the parties to this transaction think they are likely to influence the country press, they mistake the temper of the men who wield the pen in the country printing offices of the land. The country press are accustomed to go down in defeat. They may not get their choice for senator, and Mr. Niedringhaus may not have been their choice in some instances before the caucus; but the republican press of Missouri is not made up of bolters, and when the party will be expressed they not only acquiesce but go in to win for the successful one. So they can depend on the country press standing by the regular nominee. Not alone because his name is Niedringhaus, but because he is the choice of Missouri republicans.

The Dog in the Manger.

From Princeton Post.

It seems that the republican victory in the state last November is to be overshadowed by the disgraceful actions of a little gang of political skunks at Jefferson City. R. C. Kerens, who was defeated in the republican caucus for the nomination of U. S. senator, is pushing the work, and as a result of his efforts, there has, so far, been a deadlock. Kerens is acting the dog in the manger. Because he cannot get the plum, he don't want anybody else to have it. The actions of Kerens and his followers is a disgrace to the party. The Hon. Thos. K. Niedringhaus was fairly nominated by the republican caucus and all republicans should stand by him. What representatives mean by flocking to the banner and kneeling to the whims of a political has-been, we can not see. Kerens' days are up. He knows it, and because of some fancied wrong done him, or a false rumor—he is determined to blacken the party record.

Grave Trouble Foreseen.

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